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ROLLING IN THE DEEP

AT AN ALL-TIME LOW, SHANNON MUSES ON BUBBLE ECONOMIES AND THE DEATH OF THE MIDDLE CLASS PAGE 9

WEARING THE PRIDE

Roughriders fan Gord Rogerson looks at Saskatchewan's Grey Cup T-shirts at the Rider Store at Mosaic Stadium on Wednesday. The Riders are preparing to stock up on merchandise celebrating their CFL championship following a rush on such apparel since their big win over the Hamilton Tiger-Cats on Sunday. See story, page 3. ROSS ROMANIUK/METRO

Sask. budget stays afloat despite shrinking surplus

Fiscal update.
Lower revenues, but books still in balance

The Saskatchewan government's budget is still in the black, but its cushion continues to shrink.

A second-quarter fiscal update released Wednesday forecasts the government's program surplus at $22.8 million — down from $64.8 million when the budget was released earlier this year.

Decreases in provincial sales tax revenue and money from Crown land sales are being blamed for the drop. Spending is also up by $8 million because of higher demand for disaster assistance and programs for the disabled.

Increases in revenue from oil and corporate income tax helped cushion the blow. A record crop is also forecast to bump up the province's economic growth rate by a full percentage point to 3.6 per cent in 2013.

"The budget remains balanced thanks to our strong, diverse economy and prudent expense management," said Finance Minister Ken Krawetz.

When Crown corporations and other government agencies are included in the financial picture, the government says it is on track to run a $467-million surplus — up more than $300 million from the budget forecast.

That surge comes from higher returns in the not-for-profit insurance organizations in the province's portfolio, most significantly from the Workers' Compensation Board and Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corp.

The report notes that spending increases have been limited to the Government Relations and Social Services ministries. Other departments are expected to either meet or come in below budget for 2013-14. It's hoped that will result in savings and debt-servicing cost reductions of more than $75 million.

CJME, THE CANADIAN PRESS

Opposition response

Trent Wotherspoon, the Opposition NDP finance critic, said the province's efforts to save money within ministries isn't necessarily a good thing when there are problems in emergency rooms and with seniors care.

- "The minister might be able to write this off as some sort of a lean exercise, but lean is also supposed to mean better results," Wotherspoon said. "We don't see that in health care and education across Saskatchewan."

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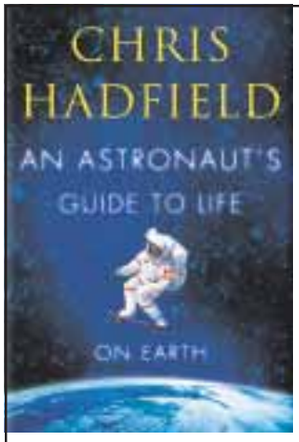

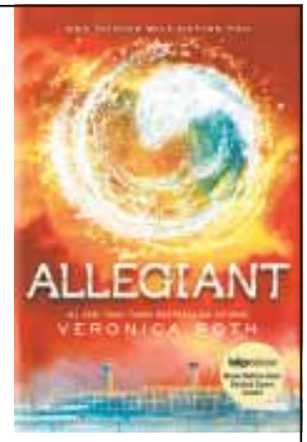

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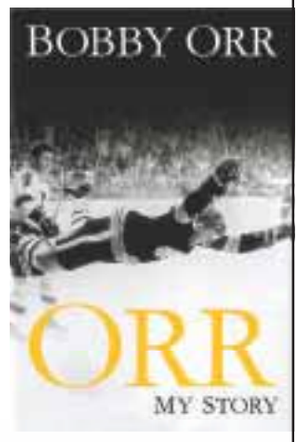

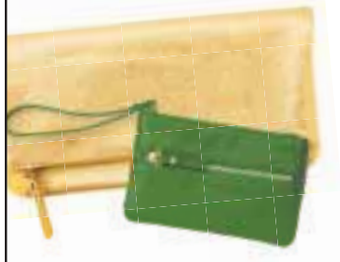

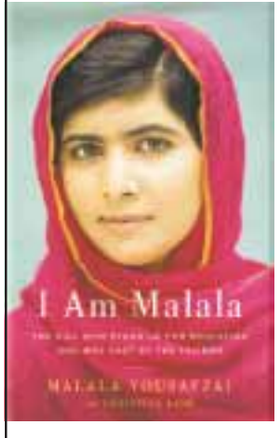

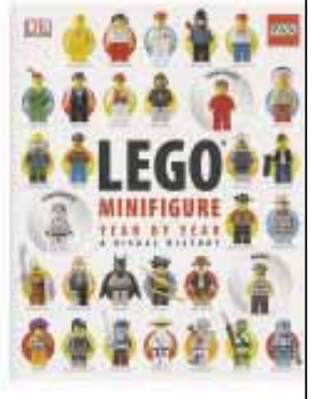

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Sellers of Saskatchewan Grey Cup gear ready for Riderville

Victor's spoils. Former Riders receiver says clothing presses are running 24 hours a day

ROSS ROMANIUK
ross.romaniuk@metronews.ca

It's a big, green sales machine, oiled and primed to meet huge demand.

The Saskatchewan Roughriders are scrambling to stock their retail outlets with merchandise celebrating their latest Grey Cup win, after their fans immediately snapped up a first run of a few hundred championship hats and T-shirts early this week.

"We've got the presses working overtime," Steve Mazurak, the CFL team's vice-president of sales and corporate partnerships, said on Wednesday of the production of clothing for Saskatchewan's four Rider Store locations since Sunday's Grey Cup victory.

"The moment we win the game, our suppliers are aware of that. The artwork is pre-selected. The creative is done. The presses start running, and run 24 hours a day. So whether it's tees or fleeces, a lot of that active-wear and clothing will be coming out on an ongoing basis."

Following the initial sales surge of caps and T-shirts marking the Cup win, staff at the Rider Store at Mosaic Stadium were busy on Wednesday getting more of the $29 shirts onto racks.

Gord Rogerson, a Regina fan of the Green and White, was looking for more than Grey Cup T-shirts for himself and for his son living in Calgary.

"I need a sweatshirt, and I don't think they've got them in yet. I have a 2007 sweatshirt for the Grey Cup championship, and I want to update that," Rogerson told Metro at the stadium outlet, noting that he's prepared to wait.

"It will take some time."

Mazurak, a former Riders receiver, added that the team's director of merchandising, Mark Habicht, knows the kinds of apparel and souvenirs fans want.

"Whether it's the green that they would typically wear to a football game or items they would wear to the office or for casual wear, we're going to ramp it up and have our stores ready for that demand," Mazurak said.

"If you live in Weyburn, Wadena, Wichita, Kansas, or Australia, it doesn't matter. You'll be able to get that product. We're going to have it available."

Green light

"If you live in Weyburn, Wadena, Wichita, Kansas, or Australia, it doesn't matter. You'll be able to get that product."

Steve Mazurak, the Roughriders' vice-president of sales and corporate partnerships, on ramping up for surging demand.

Jerry Zimmer cheers as many of the Saskatchewan Roughriders players pass by on a float during the team's Grey Cup victory parade on Tuesday in Regina. LIAM RICHARDS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

City hall's property tax system is an "18th-century tax system for a 21st-century country," says Mayor Fougere. MARCO VIGLIOTTI/METRO

Property tax system outdated: Mayor

As echoed by pundits and government officials, Saskatchewan's cities are experiencing a historic boom that has improved upon a decades-long trend of timid population gains.

But as the province revels in its new-found stature, urban centres, including Regina, are grappling with strained infrastructure — raising questions as to whether municipalities can keep pace by relying on the often-reviled property tax system to fund needed upgrades.

"It's an 18th-century tax system for a 21st-century country," Mayor Michael Fougere said on Monday of the property tax model during a city council debate.

"Property taxes do not grow with the economy ... sales taxes, GST, income taxes all do."

Fougere said he's disappointed that a recent accounting change by the Saskatchewan government has resulted in the city receiving $900,000 less this year than had been anticipated through a provincial sales tax transfer.

"(Property taxes) are regressive ... there's a disincentive to improve properties embedded in it," explained Tina Beaudry-Mellor, a political science instructor at the University of Regina.

While many ratepayers may dislike property taxes, Beaudry-Mellor points out that some of the alternatives might be just as politically unpopular.

"You could have a municipal tax that is purely a flat tax ... that would (apply) to people, not assets," the political scientist said, adding that she's not certain it would be "any less vilified than a property tax."

MARCO VIGLIOTTI/METRO

Curling

Moose Jaw to host 2015 Scotties

Moose Jaw will host Canada's top women's curlers for the 2015 Scotties Tournament of Hearts.

The Canadian Curling Association announced the site Wednesday for the Feb. 14-22 event at Mosaic Place, marking the first time the Saskatchewan city will host the Canadian women's championships.

It's not the first time Mosaic Place has hosted world-class curling, though — the 2012 Capital One Canada Cup of Curling broke attendance records for the event at the 4,465-seat facility.

"The 2012 Canada Cup was a shining example of a city supporting our sport and our curlers," CCA CEO Greg Stremlaw said in a release.

Moose Jaw has played host to several other major curling events, including the 1983 world women's championship, the 1979 world junior men's championship and the 1994 Canadian senior men's and women's championships.

The 2014 Scotties Tournament of Hearts runs Feb. 1-9 in Montreal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Northern Saskatchewan

Search team finds human remains

A search for a woman reported missing in northern Saskatchewan has turned up human remains.

Mounties from the La Ronge detachment and members of the Sucker River First Nation were conducting a ground search today near Sucker River in the hopes of locating Jodi Roberts.

Roberts, who is 24, was reported missing by her family on Nov. 6.

Police say searchers were focused on this area because an article of clothing had been found there.

The human remains were found several kilometres from Sucker River. They have not been identified.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rob Ford. Judge allows release of 'significant' new police drug case data

More information on the "extensive" police investigation into disgraced Toronto Mayor Rob Ford should be released as it is of "very significant public interest," a judge ruled Wednesday.

Portions of the police document that were previously released showed former staffers alleged the mayor was intoxicated at work, drank while driving and associated with suspected prostitutes.

The document, containing allegations not proven in court, was filed in the drug case of Ford's friend Alexander Lisi, though it mostly focuses on the mayor. The actual release is on hold until Dec. 6. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"The actions of the mayor are a matter of very significant public interest and concern."
Justice Ian Nordheimer

Toronto Mayor Rob Ford has denied consorting with prostitutes and insists he is not an alcoholic or drug addict. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ford feedback. Why isn't he in the slammer? asks an amazed U.S. sheriff

A U.S. sheriff who has just charged a town mayor with drug offences said Wednesday it's a head-scratcher why crack-smoker Rob Ford is still in office — and out of jail.

Gordon Smith, a sheriff from Bradford County in Florida, said he's watched the Ford scandal unfold with amazement. "He's so flamboyant, he's out there, he's kind of smearing it in Torontonians' faces, saying, 'What are you going to do?'"

Smith said he wouldn't put up with illicit drug activity, regardless of who is involved. "This isn't Toronto," he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Court arguments

Naked judge panel in spotlight

Lawyers argued Wednesday over whether the Federal Court has the authority to review a panel looking into the case of a Manitoba judge whose nude photos ended up on the Internet.

Manitoba Queen's Bench Justice Lori Douglas' lawyers have sought a judicial review, alleging a panel investigating her is biased.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Teen charged

When a slap is not a game

An 18-year-old student in Tilbury, Ont., is facing assault charges after a schoolyard game left another student with concussion.

Police say a 16-year-old student offered to let classmates slap him for cash. But after one slap he lost consciousness and struck his head on the ground. It's unclear how much money he received.
LUKE SIMCOE/METRO ONLINE

'Hillbilly heroin' gets green light in Canada

Banned in U.S. Ottawa officials approve generic painkiller oxycodone despite warnings from experts south of the border

Oxycodone is often referred to as "hillbilly heroin." The U.S. warns about its generic use. GRAEME ROY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Health Canada has approved a generic, addictive form of oxycodone just as U.S. officials urge their Canadian counterparts to ban such formulations of the painkiller — often known as "hillbilly heroin."

The green light to Ranbaxy, India's biggest drug maker, came soon after Gil Kerlikowske, director of the White House Office of Drug Control Policy, reminded Health Minister Rona Ambrose of the dangers posed by generic forms of the opioid.

The U.S. has banned generic oxycodone because it's too easy for addicts to snort or inject. Only tamper-resistant forms of the drug can be sold stateside.

American officials say the U.S. is dealing with a painkiller abuse epidemic that is killing tens of thousands of people a year.

Ambrose hinted last month she was looking into the issue of tamper-resistance and signalled the government would expand its national anti-drug strategy.

"Prescription drug abuse is a growing problem that we are working with provinces and territories to address," Ambrose said Wednesday.

She added the Tories are also attempting to tighten licensing rules that would help prevent the trafficking of addictive prescription drugs.

She didn't comment on why Health Canada bureaucrats are continuing to approve generic, addictive forms of oxycodone.

Health Canada defended itself, saying it "rigorously" assesses every drug's safety and efficacy. "These decisions are made by experts in the department based on science; the minister is not consulted on day-to-day drug approvals," said spokesperson Leslie Meerburg. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fast facts

What you need to know about oxycodone.

- **What is it?** A powerful narcotic used to treat moderate to severe short-term or long-term pain, as well as to treat terminally-ill patients.
- **What does it do?** It produces an opiate-like effect similar to morphine and can lead to abuse.
- **Brand names?** OxyContin, Percocet, Endocet, Oxycocet, Percodan, Endodan, Oxycodan, Supeudol, OxylR, OxyNEO.
- **How is it abused?** Generic forms of the drug can be chewed or crushed and then inhaled or injected. The oxycodone is then absorbed rapidly and produces a heroin-like euphoria.

Blue flash likely meteorite: Experts

Don't panic, says Chris Hadfield.

That was the Canadian astronaut's down-to-earth advice after many people tweeted they saw a blue flash and heard a thundering boom in the Montreal and Ottawa areas Tuesday night.

Two Ontario-based professors said Wednesday the phenomenon was likely a fireball, with one suggesting it was probably between the size of a baseball and a basketball when it passed through the atmosphere.

Hadfield, the former commander of the International Space Station, tried to offer some words of assurance, saying it's just part of normal life in the universe.

"Earth gets hit by 100 tons of meteorites every day," he told The Canadian Press on Wednesday while in Montreal to promote his new book. "Most of them are grains of dust — it's like we're perpetually being sandblasted by the universe.

"Once in a while we get a big rock that comes into the Earth's atmosphere and like in Montreal last night, it actually gets down low enough in the atmosphere to burn up as a blue flame and then make like a pressure wave that we hear as a sonic boom.

"What happened I think was just a part of the universe that arrived here on Earth."

Peter Brown, a physics professor at Western University in London, Ont., said sound usually indicates something has penetrated deeper into the atmosphere.

"It's certainly consistent with the effect we would expect for a relatively good-sized fireball that might produce meteorites," he said in an interview. Brown said it would be difficult to speculate about the size of the fiery object because of a lack of information. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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LGBT clampdown. Russia raises rhetoric at home, softens message to West

Anyone who switched on Russian TV recently might have been forgiven for thinking the Kremlin was relaxing its hard line on gays: Images of rainbow flags and a happy same-sex couple looking adoringly at their child flashed across the screen.

But the show, with its horror film music, was another swipe at the gay community. The force behind it is one of Russia's top propagandists, whose programs have helped to bring criminal charges against those on President Vladimir Putin's black list.

The broadcast points to the double-game the Kremlin is playing on gay rights.

To the West, Russia has sought to extend reassurances as it prepares to host the Winter Olympics that a law passed this summer banning homosexual "propaganda" does not discriminate against gays. To its domestic audience, the government has ramped up the anti-gay rhetoric, unifying its fraying electoral base with a popular refrain of traditional values.

The TV show by Arkady Mamontov — who made his name by taking a hatchet to punk rock group Pussy Riot and other opposition activists — is the latest example of Russia's unwillingness to back down from its legislative crackdown on gays.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The two Russias

"There is always Russia for Russians and then Russia for the West."

Anton Krasovsky, a TV journalist fired after he came out as gay, saying the government chose issues it thinks are topics close to Russians, but at the same time, is trying to win back credit in the international arena ahead of the Olympics.

A police officer detains a gay rights activist in Moscow in this photo from May 2009. Russia is telling the West that a law banning homosexual "propaganda" does not discriminate against gays, but is ramping up the anti-LGBT rhetoric at home. ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Macy's parade. Winds could ground balloons

A storm bearing down on the U.S. East Coast with a messy mix of snow, rain and wind is threatening to ground giant balloon versions of Snoopy and SpongeBob SquarePants in the annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

The iconic characters that soar between the Manhattan skyscrapers every year may not lift off Thursday if sustained winds exceed 37 km/h and gusts exceed 55 km/h, according to city rules enacted after fierce winds in 1997 caused a Cat in the Hat balloon to topple a light pole and seriously injure a woman spectator.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sonic the Hedgehog was part of Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York last year.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Giant Louis Vuitton suitcase booted out of Red Square

Tourists and visitors pass by a two-storey Louis Vuitton suitcase erected near the Kremlin, right, in Moscow's Red Square, Wednesday. Politicians didn't like it, the public didn't like it, so the gigantic Louis Vuitton suitcase is being given the boot. The GUM department store on Red Square, left, which is responsible for the nine-metres high and 30-metres long construction, promised Wednesday that it would be dismantled. The construction is part of an exhibition called The Soul of Travel, marking Vuitton's 150th anniversary and was to open on Dec. 2. Louis Vuitton said the construction was a copy of a model owned by a Russian noble, Prince Vladimir Orlov. PAVEL GOLOVKIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Berlusconi kicked out of Italian Parliament

Not going quietly. Former premier has relaunched his Forza Italia party and he still commands millions of loyal supporters

The Italian Senate on Wednesday expelled three-time ex-premier Silvio Berlusconi from Parliament over his tax fraud conviction, ending his two-decade legislative run for now, but not his political career.

Berlusconi has warned that the unprecedented move would embarrass Italy internationally, and he maintained his defiance even as the Senate voted, addressing a cheering crowd outside of his Roman palazzo a short walk away.

Even though he won't hold a seat in Parliament for at least six years, the 77-year-old Berlusconi pledged to remain involved in politics and urged his followers not to despair — noting that other political leaders are not lawmakers.

Supporters, including Berlusconi's 28-year-old girlfriend, who had a Forza Italia flag wrapped around her shoulders against the cold, were treated to a video montage of Berlusconi's greatest political hits from a career that began in 1994 when he first came into power with a political party named for a soccer chant Let's Go Italy.

"For us, he will always be there," said Marilda Antonello as she held a banner reading "The law is not equal for everyone. Sick justice."

The Senate vote on whether to remove Berlusconi from the chamber stems from a 2012 law that bans anyone sentenced to more than two years in prison from holding or running for public office for six years. His lawyers claim the law is unconstitutional and have questioned why the rush to expel him while legal challenges are still pending.

Italy's high court on Aug. 1 upheld Berlusconi's tax fraud conviction and four-year prison term. The prison term was reduced automatically to one year under a general amnesty; he will serve his time either under house arrest or through public service.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bitter words

"We are here on a bitter day, a day of mourning for democracy."

Silvio Berlusconi

Silvio Berlusconi and his girlfriend Francesca Pascale leave after he addressed a rally in Rome, Wednesday. ROBERTO MONALDO, LAPRESSE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

People stand in front of a metal structure that buckled on part of the Itaquerao Stadium in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Part of the stadium that will host the 2014 World Cup opener collapsed on Wednesday, causing significant damage and killing two workers, authorities said. NELSON ANTOINE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Part of stadium to host World Cup collapses

Brazil. The Sao Paulo stadium, which cost nearly $360 million, is expected to seat nearly 70,000 for the opener

Part of the stadium that will host the 2014 World Cup opener in Brazil collapsed on Wednesday, killing two workers and raising urgent new concerns whether the country will be ready for soccer's signature event.

Brazil has been plagued by a series of setbacks including cost overruns, stadium delays, accidents, labour strife and massive street protests in the run-up to the June tournament, once envisioned as a coming-out party for South America's largest nation, which is also scheduled to host the Olympics in 2016.

Wednesday's accident at Sao Paulo's Itaquerao Stadium occurred when a construction crane crashed into a 500-ton metal structure that in turn cut through the outer walls of the venue, destroying rows of seats and slamming into a massive LED panel that runs across the stadium's facade.

The accident could delay delivery of the stadium, which was practically finished before Wednesday's collapse. FIFA has set a December deadline for all 12 World Cup venues to be ready. The World Cup begins on June 12 with Brazil playing at the Sao Paulo stadium.

Officials said there were no major structural damages to the stadium but declined to say how much the accident may affect the delivery.

"I don't want to know about FIFA right now, we are worried about the families of the victims," Andres Sanchez, former president of the Corinthians soccer club, told a news conference.

Sanchez said two people were confirmed dead and nobody else was injured. A fire department official had said earlier that three people had died.

One of the workers, 42-year-old Fabio Luis Pereira, was inside a truck that was hit by the metal structure. The other, 44-year-old Ronaldo Oliveira dos Santos, was resting in an area which was supposed to be isolated.

"Unfortunately nobody saw him and he himself knew that he was not supposed to be there," Sanchez said. "He was napping and unfortunately there wasn't time for him to get out." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Construction

It wasn't the first problem with World Cup stadiums in Brazil.

- One worker died during construction of a stadium in the capital Brasilia last year and another in the Manaus venue in March.
- In April, another worker died at the construction site of the new Palmeiras stadium.
- In Rio, the stadium which will host athletics in the 2016 Olympics has been closed for several months because of fears that its roof could collapse.

Racism threatens to drive business owner out of town

For the second time in several months, a restaurant owner in the small Manitoba community of Morris says she is being chased out of town by discrimination.

Thea Morris, the Jamaican-born owner of Thea's Diner, said Wednesday she has received an email referencing the Ku Klux Klan and has been told by one of her customers that people are avoiding her business because she is black.

And since the KKK email, some customers have been behaving strangely, she said. People who appear to be in their 50s and very well-dressed come in, in groups of two or three, and quickly leave.

"They'll come in and sit down and order their beverage to start, and by the time you'd take the beverage to them, they would get up and walk out.

"It has come across as intimidating."

Morris opened her diner in June, in the exact same spot that used to house Pots N Hands, which was run by a gay couple.

Pots N Hands owner Dave Claringbould and his partner closed down in April. He said they were subjected to homophobic slurs, including one customer who asked whether the food contained disease.

Morris, who lives in Winnipeg, said she had hoped things would be different for her. Business was good in the summer, but customers mostly stopped coming at the end of August, she said. Then a series of strange events had her worried for her safety.

Someone left a dead hawk on the windshield of a worker's car, she said. When she placed an online ad for restaurant staff, she received a reply from someone who claimed to be linked to the Ku Klux Klan and who asked whether Morris residents were "still chasing colours" out of town, she added. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The town of Morris

"One older gentleman told me the reason people were not coming into my restaurant was because of my colour."

Thea Morris, the Jamaican-born owner of Thea's Diner

Leaked document

NSA spied on radicals' online porn habits

The Huffington Post cited a secret National Security Agency document that allegedly reveals the U.S. agency spied on the online sexual activity of Islamist radicals in order to find ways to discredit them. The website said the document, leaked by ex-NSA contractor Edward Snowden, shows the organization tracked six unnamed "radicalizers" and their visits to pornographic websites. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Northern Ohio

People flee homes over chemical leak

A city official says authorities have contained a spill at a northern Ohio rail yard where potentially flammable liquid (used to make plastic and rubber products) leaked from a railcar, prompting the evacuation of hundreds of nearby homes. Local responders and cleanup workers from transportation company CSX Corp. were at the scene Wednesday in Willard. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Racers rally for women drivers in Saudi Arabia

Former Finnish rally driver Ari Vatanen, left, and Tunisian rally driver Hend Chaouch, second right in red, pose as they take part in a protest against Saudi Arabia's ban on women driving, Wednesday, in Paris. Though no specific Saudi law bans women from driving, women are not issued licences, and rely mostly on drivers or male relatives to move around. CHRISTOPHE ENA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hold tight: Zip line over vultures, alligators and crocodiles, oh my!

Take a ride on the wild side. One of Florida's oldest tourist attractions brings in adrenaline junkies with obstacle course

I was slowly crossing a swinging log bridge when I paused, sensing the alligator 12 feet below was staring at me.

The water around the 8-foot gator's enormous body began rippling rapidly. A second later, Big Al let out a deep bellow, as if to say, "If you fall, you're my lunch."

I was grateful to be strapped in a harness.

The bridge was part of a 49-station obstacle course that includes 10 zip lines at the St. Augustine Alligator Farm. It takes visitors over crocodiles, lemurs, giant tortoises, vultures and, of course, lots of alligators.

"It's just a totally different perspective. You can go to any zoo in the world and look at them through the glass, but you can't go anywhere and look at them over the top of the enclosures like you can here," said Scott Brown, who designed and now manages the Crocodile Crossing at the zoo.

The alligator farm is fascinating enough on foot. At 120 years old, it's among Florida's oldest tourist attractions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"The most amazing, awesome thing I've done ever."

Ava Martin, 53, who lives just north of St. Augustine. She and her 21-year-old son Corey were taking the course for the second time.

Ava Martin zip lining over an alligator lagoon at the St. Augustine Alligator Farm. BRENDAN FARRINGTON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Highlights

The longest zip line on the course is 300 feet, or the length of a football field. There are some very fast lines, requiring some quick breaking. There's also the occasional palm frond that harmlessly whacks your butt.

- "You'll see things that the public doesn't get to see," said Brown. "Whether it's other animal enclosures, animals getting moved, animals getting a vet visit, maybe getting blood drawn. And it's always exciting for the public to see a large alligator or even a small alligator getting caught, getting taped up and getting moved. You're always going to see something that nobody else is looking at."

Xbox One, PS4 glitches test gamers' devotion

Move over, zombies. Step aside, terrorists. Aliens, out of the way.

There are a few new foes affecting gamers that are proving to be far more destructive than any on-screen villain.

With nicknames like "the blue light of death" and "the disc drive of doom," they're the game-ending glitches causing headaches for a few gamers who picked up the next-generation Xbox One and PlayStation 4 consoles at launch.

Microsoft Corp. said Monday it's replacing the Xbox One units of users who have reported systems that won't read discs, an issue dubbed "the disc drive of doom." The company said the problem is affecting "a very small number" of customers, who will also receive one free downloadable game from Microsoft Game Studios.

Sony Corp. announced after the debut of the PS4 earlier this month that it was replacing the units for "less than one per cent" of users whose new consoles malfunctioned and displayed a pulsating blue light. The problem was nicknamed "the blue light of death."

While the issues seem to affect a minority of Xbox One and PS4 owners, the concerns could deter consumers who regularly play games on smartphones and mobile devices. Sony's PS4 costs $399 US. Microsoft's Xbox One costs $100 US more and includes a Kinect sensor.

Microsoft and Sony both announced that more than 1 million Xbox One and PS4 consoles were sold in the 24 hours after their release this month. It's been seven and eight years respectively since Microsoft and Sony launched the Xbox 360 and PlayStation 3.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gamers are, um, passionate about their consoles. Emanuel Jumatate hugs his new Xbox One after he purchased it last Friday. NAM Y. HUH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Costly error

The glitches recall Microsoft's "red ring of death," when production problems caused several predecessors of the Xbox One to lock up and display three flashing red lights.

- Microsoft extended customers' warranties and said in 2007 that it had spent more than $1 billion US to repair the problems with the Xbox 360.

Focus on commerce

Pushing 'economic diplomacy' top priority for Canada

The Harper government says it wants Canadian diplomats in foreign countries to re-channel their energies and resources into advancing the country's commercial interests.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Home mortgages

Consider phasing out CMHC insurance: IMF

Ottawa should consider phasing out insuring home mortgages through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp., the International Monetary Fund said Wednesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Random biz fact of the day

16%

There has been a 16 per cent growth in part-time positions, year over year.

WORKOPOLIS

Phew! Shelve that Sriracha hoarding plan ... for now

A judge has ordered a plant that produces Sriracha chili sauce to stop emitting annoying odours.

Huy Fong Foods has said there is no reason to close the plant in Irwindale, Calif., now because harvest season and the subsequent grinding of red-hot jalapeno peppers — the key ingredient of the sauce — have passed.

The injunction may not have an immediate impact on the company's production or hot sauce supply as it continues its year-round mixing and bottling.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Don't sweat it: There's no Sriracha shortage, yet. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Some not so hot on smell

"Why are people complaining about the chili smell?"

Randall Acosta, 45, who lives in an apartment complex across the street from the factory, said the scent can be strong sometimes but it makes him hungry.

Market Minute

DOLLAR 94.38¢ (-0.59¢)

Natural gas: $3.91 US (+3¢)
Dow Jones: 16,072.33 (+24.53)

TSX 13,362.06 (+12.29)

OIL $92.30 US (-$1.38)

GOLD $1,237.80 US (-$3.60)

Douglas Coupland

Douglas Coupland's latest novel, Worst. Person. Ever., is available from Random House Canada.

Day 19

metronews.ca/temp

Kitchen nightmares

There's no pay, but you can have all the abuse you want

Would you do a job where you weren't paid, were endlessly berated, forced to use dangerous equipment and denied proper medical help? Welcome to the life of a kitchen apprentice in the cutthroat culinary scene.

At times, it's like a real-life Kitchen Nightmares episode where even the most seasoned staff are berated to the point of tears.

"It is common for some cooks to be thrown under the bus by others because they don't want to look bad," one Toronto sous-chef explains of his early days in the industry.

IRENE KUAN/METRO

Seasonal work

Santa: The ultimate temp

Seasonal work as Santa pays up to $100 an hour, according to a PayScale survey. But all that non-stop cheeriness can take a toll. One Santa told the New York Post he wasn't able to leave his chair to go to the bathroom and got hit in the head with a frying pan by a scared child.

VAWN HIMMELSBACH/FOR METRO

Temp Hits an All-Time Low

Do you have a special place you go to when you're at an all-time low? Some people have a place, me I just drive and drive, past the strip malls, past the light industrial zones and past the fallow fields. After watching Kyle enter the refinery I began thinking of the world and how it's changed, even in my short life. Countries like Greece that used to be normal countries, now gutted of their middle class and overnight turned into something new and nameless, a land with no economy but with pretty good coffee and smoking hot Wi-Fi. I got to thinking of bubbles—how all we do these days is lurch from bubble to bubble. Are we in a new bubble? Is the bubble about to burst? I'm afraid of bubbles and I'm sick of bubbles—and yet I'm addicted to bubbles. Go figure.

I drove past the under-construction subdivisions that died in 2008, their 2x4s turned the grey colour of moths. I wondered if we're addicted to the idea that society without a middle class isn't really society. I wondered if maybe back in the days of Detroit, jumbo refrigerators and the Beatles we tricked ourselves into thinking that the middle class equals the future—and without a middle class we can't see pictures in our heads of what tomorrow might be. I find it strange how politicians repeat the words 'middle class' over and over and over again, as if doing so will allow us to pretend it still exists, that it's not evaporating daily like a puddle on a road.

Night came and I was anywhere and nowhere when my phone buzzed—it was Mr. Xu—he was back in town! And he had his big surprise all ready for me at his short-term corporate lodging suite. I couldn't remember the last time I was ever happier to get a text.

I drove to The Executive Privilege Short-Term Corporate Lodging, and ran to room 307 where the nerdy but lovely Mr. Xu awaited me.

"Ah, hello capitalist lapdog. You be ready for grand surprise?"

"Shut up! I can't believe you're back!" I gave him a smooch and said, "Okay, dial me in. I am ready for your big surprise, buster."

"Apologize in advance if not good enough."

I drove to The Executive Privilege Short-Term Corporate Lodging, and ran to room 307 where the nerdy but lovely Mr. Xu awaited me.

"Show me your surprise!"

"Very well."

A dropcloth concealed what was supposed to be the main living area. Mr. Xu pulled it back and I bathed in the majesty of what I saw.

He said, "Pretty kickass sexy, don't you think?"

I sucked in some breath and said, "Mr. Xu, you have truly amazed me."

Before me, in beautiful rows and shelves, lay over a thousand unique pairs of sneakers that would crash eBay in a flash if they all went up for sale at once.

TO BE CONTINUED...

Random fact of the day

- DiedInHouse.com supposedly scours millions of records to find out whether someone has died at a specific address. Real Estate agents hate it because a 'stigmatized property' can lose 10 to 15 per cent of its value.

SOURCE: OMG-FACTS.COM

Random biz fact of the day

21%

That's a lot of people lying: 21 per cent of resumés state fraudulent degrees

SOURCE: NEXCAREER

The clock is ticking

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION DAVID VAN DYKE/METRO

TEMP is ... well, temporary

Douglas Coupland's 20-day novella is a pop-up project and will disappear from our website this Monday at 12:01 a.m. EST. If you've missed an instalment, there are still four days to catch up at temp.metronews.ca — before it is gone forever.

METRO

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TIPS ON (COUGH) HACKING A COLD

HE SAYS

John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

Don't you hate when co-workers get over-detailed when describing their colds?

For instance, I've got a cold that started with a throat so sore that ice cream went down like broken glass and broken glass went down like jagged steel. Then it morphed into a sinus headache that I'm sure — any scientist reading can back me up — involved a small, angry man inside my head moshing to Shipping Up to Boston. And now it's the sneezy stage where I'm moulding a mound of used tissues into the mountain from Close Encounters of the Third Kind in the hopes that aliens will take me to a planet where the common cold has been defeated.

Who needs to hear that level of detail? Nobody.

Fortunately, my co-workers haven't had to worry about it because I've been on my couch for two days wishing I had a girlfriend who would come coddle me and/or kill me with an axe.

I've stayed home because I'm not one of those office heroes who somehow believes they contribute while laying comatose at their keyboard, occasionally blowing their nose with the mouse pad. I figure my one-day absence has less impact than a particularly diverting Google doodle spreading throughout the newsroom.

During my down time, I've been reading how to avoid office colds. So in the fine tradition of has-been goaltenders telling current NHLers what they're doing wrong, or failed politicians explaining how to get elected, here are my tips on avoiding office illness:

Quitting Colds, Turkey: A Guide to Office Health

- Hand sanitizer is a misnomer, and can be used all over your body. Stepping under the wall dispenser and acting out a Miley Cyrus video until you're saturated head to toe will keep you disinfected AND keep your co-workers at a good distance for the rest of the day. Win-win.
- Licking your workspace clean hurts as much as it helps.
- Remember that Vitamin C only works in conjunction with magnetic bracelets, garlic, echinacea and, sure, why not, Reiki.
- Though many people use sanitizing sprays, remember nothing gets your keyboard clean like dropping it into a bucket of water.
- Keep your hands clenched as fists so that every time you touch your face you punch yourself.
- A large hamster ball is probably not a practical way to cordon yourself off from co-workers, but it would be awesome.
- Remember that in the bathroom, a 15-second, hot-water scrub is absolutely necessary when somebody is watching. If you think you're alone, waving your hands under lukewarm water for a second is fine. If the only other person is in a stall, just running the water is often enough to complete the illusion.
- Cough in the face of people who are already sick, because what's the harm?

And those are my tips. I hope you found them helpful, particularly my co-workers, because I'm coming in today. Sorry. On the upside, you're not going to hear any details about my cold. Cough, cough, ahem.

ZOOM

Here, let me give you an arm with that

COURTESY DYSON

Man and machine get a little cosier

Think super-human strength is reserved for the big screen?

A team of engineers are encouraging you to think again after they developed the Titan Arm — a battery-powered robotic arm that gives users an extra 40 pounds in strength, and functions to rehabilitate those with back injuries by helping them to rebuild muscle and motor control. **METRO**

Dyson award winner

- The arm recently won the 2013 James Dyson Award, beating out 650 other projects from around the world.
- The team wins $45,000 to help commercialize their idea, with an additional $15,000 going to their school.
- jamesdysonaward.org

Inexpensive design

"Titan Arm is obviously an ingenious design, but the team's use of modern, rapid — and relatively inexpensive — manufacturing techniques makes the project even more compelling."

James Dyson said of the $2,000 prototype, which is significantly less than similar exoskeletons that run $100,000.

Tech advances make life easier

A team of four University of Pennsylvania mechanical engineering students spent eight months creating it.

The arm's shoulder is made of three joints that mimic the rotation of a human elbow, allowing for free range of use.

Plus it contains sensors that track motion and relay data to doctors for remote prognosis. **METRO**

Clickbait

HANNAH ZITNER
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CONTRIBUTED

With Wi-Fi popping up everywhere from underground subways to in-flight planes, there's more reason to put your apps to work. Once the domain of cash-strapped students, texting over Wi-Fi's been gaining popular ground (cause who doesn't like saving money on their phone bills?). Before your next flight or trip underground, give these a try.

WhatsApp:
Works on Apple or Android phones, WhatsApp is among the most popular and lets you send texts (including pictures) to your other 'whatsApp friends.' Only downside is, you have to convince all your pals to get the app, too.

Viber:
Similar to WhatsApp, but lets you send audio, video and even make VoIP calls, too. Perfect for long distance pals.

Zipaclip:
For those who need a little more bandwidth for their texting needs, Zipaclip (as it sounds), lets you zip videos up to five minutes long, so you're no longer restricted to texting 30 second videos. Also, keeps them secure. Just in case.

Twitter

@metropicks asked: @thehappycity book says urban design that fosters social ties makes for a happy city. What makes your city a happy one?

@Canucklehead_ca: An ample supply of beer and .... umm, I .... I'll have to get back to you on this.

@Lowpass: being able to walk everywhere and the restaurants, bars and other venues that come with that.

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

Comments

RE: When A Stalker Strikes Online, published Nov. 26

I'm appalled the police can't do anything faster or sooner. Can't believe what this poor woman has been through, first with her brother's suicide and now this. It's just awful. This stalker should be prosecuted so they can't follow through with their threats. **KH posted to metronews.ca**

Hiding behind a computer to threaten someone shows you're a real wimp, pretty pathetic and probably a low life. **turtles have a say posted to metronews.ca**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:
Send us your comments: reginaletters@metronews.ca

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Back to basics in Berlin

Local music.
Saskatchewan singer-songwriter Julia McDougall fills Metro in on her move abroad and spreading her wings creatively

BACKSTAGE PASS
Jacob Morgan
saskatoon@metronews.ca

Julia McDougall spent the past few years after graduating from Simon Fraser University in B.C. working as a musician based out of Regina. This month, she picked up and moved to Berlin. Metro caught up with the singer-songwriter to find out exactly what was behind her decision to relocate. CHRIS GRAHAM

Last year Julia McDougall sang on her gorgeous I Don't Really Care EP about wishing she was "halfway across the world."

This past month she did just that when she picked up from her home base in Regina and moved to Berlin.

"Everything I had heard about Berlin in the past was really intriguing," McDougall told Metro over Skype from her new place in that city's hip and graffiti-covered Kreuzberg neighbourhood.

"I heard a lot about their arts scene and their culture. It just really appealed to me."

McDougall, who has been playing piano since she was a kid growing up in the small Saskatchewan town of Torquay and went on to study composition at Simon Fraser University, said her original plan was to follow up last year's EP with a full album.

But she began to feel restless.

"I was just really exhausted with the whole folk music genre," said McDougall of the process.

She is hoping to branch out in a different direction and possibly explore electronic and ambient sounds.

"Berlin is kind of the place to check out stuff that's going on in that field," she said.

Despite the fact that McDougall has undergone such a dramatic change in location and appears to be looking elsewhere for creative inspiration, she hasn't turned her back on her roots.

"Saskatchewan was so good to me," she said. "Regina as a community totally embraced me and accepted me."

Rather, her decision stemmed from a certain post-graduate angst familiar to many 20-somethings and young adults.

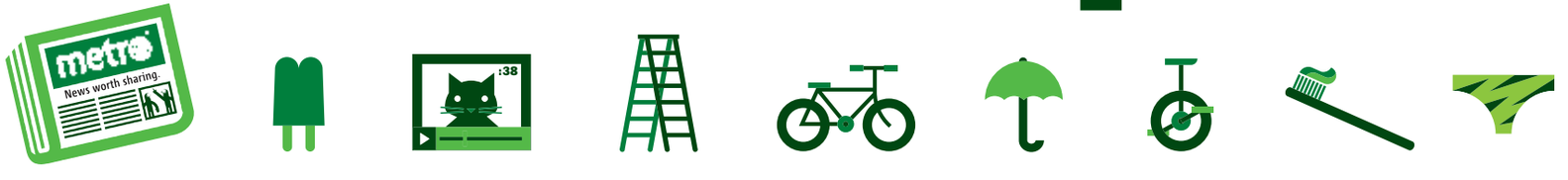
The emotional state is also reflected in her earlier work and scrawled across I Don't Really Care, so in many ways McDougall's radical shift shouldn't come as a huge surprise.

"I have a soft place for that EP," she said. "Its aim was to evoke that feeling of listlessness or wandering or uncertainty."

Whether it be with more folk music or with something completely different, here's hoping McDougall evokes more of those uncertain feelings in the future.

SCENE

Sharability



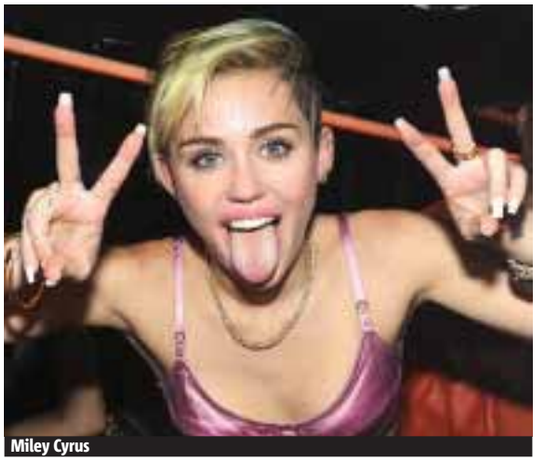
METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Alec Baldwin

Baldwin loses his talk show but is still 'half' defiant over anti-gay slurs

Alec Baldwin has lost his talk show, which was officially cancelled by MSNBC in the wake of multiple controversies involving the former 30 Rock star, but Baldwin is still looking to set the record straight about what he may or may not have said to a photographer when he used an anti-gay slur. "I dispute half the comment I made," Baldwin tells the website Gothamist. "'F—t' is not the word that came out of my mouth. That I know. But you've got the fundamentalist wing of gay advocacy — (GLAAD communications VP) Rich Ferraro and (blogger) Andrew Sullivan — they're out there, they've got you. Rich Ferraro, this is probably one of his greatest triumphs. They killed my show. And I have to take some responsibility for that myself."



Miley Cyrus

Any link between Miley's burglary and her brand new teepee? Eh, no

Just because Miley Cyrus' house was burglarized and then a giant teepee was erected in her backyard a few days later doesn't mean the two occurrences are related. When the Native American-inspired structure went up at the pop star's home, reports went out insisting she was sleeping in it because she felt uncomfortable in her home following the break-in. But Cyrus' rep insists to E! News that the teepee was merely a gift from Cyrus' family, similar to the one they have at their home in Tennessee.

The Word

Thanksgiving holiday conversations: The celebrity version

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

What do the rich and famous do over the American Thanksgiving break? I have a feeling they are doing something fabulous and not doing what we do — hanging out in the townie bars in our hometown drinking cheap domestics with people from high school.

However, what if they did? For this special edition of The Word, Metro staffers imagined what kind of discussions the rich and famous have at their hometown hangs.

"Oh ... Kelly and Michelle ... Hi! Um, how long have you guys been bartending here?" **— Beyoncé**

"So, do you text?" **— Anthony Weiner**

"I don't know, y'all. Have I made enough of a statement this year that I am finally a woman?" **— Miley Cyrus**

"Guys, I know it's not like me to walk away from a fight, but if I get nabbed one more time for beating somebody up, I'll go away for a long time. Now, let's just chill, get another pitcher of Miller Lite and play some Keno." **— Chris Brown**

"Oh man, bro, last time I saw you, we were, what, in middle school? Can't believe it's been five years!" **— Justin Bieber**

"Wait, what?! You prefer the dark meat? Oh, hell no! Bartender, keep the White Russians comin' sugar ... " **— Paula Deen**

"Ima let you finish that Pabst, bro, but I have to tell you ... I'm pretty sure my Thanksgiving stuffing recipe is the best recipe of all time. OF ALL TIME." **— High-art genius Kanye West.**

"Yeah, everyone is totally buying this sweet, goofy girl act! Whatever, more money in my pocket. God I hate my fans." **— Jennifer Lawrence**

Jennifer Love Hewitt

Hewitt's baby-marriage double kept on down low

Jennifer Love Hewitt likes to keep things quiet. The former Ghost Whisperer star gave birth to a daughter, Autumn James Hallisay, on Tuesday, and her rep used the birth announcement to sneak in the fact that Hewitt has also quietly married fiancé Brian Hallisay. "Jennifer Love Hewitt and her husband, Brian Hallisay, are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter," her rep tells Us Weekly.

Frankie Muniz ALL IMAGES GETTY

Frightened Muniz suffers another mini-stroke

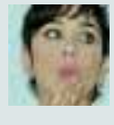
At 27 years old, Frankie Muniz isn't having the best time, health-wise. "Almost a year to the day, I experienced another mini-stroke," Muniz posted to Twitter. "Hopefully that will be the last. Miserable." A mini-stroke consists of tiny lapses in blood flow to the brain.

Last year he related to Good Morning America how frightening the experience can be: "I couldn't say any words," he said. "I thought I was saying them. My fiancée was looking at me as if I was speaking a foreign language."

Twitter

@justinbieber
Surfing and sunshine. Loving the Gold Coast.

@lenadunham
Secret of human existence: I totally think I'm the worst, just for different reasons than you do



@SarahKSilverman
It's all meaningless but don't let yourself get hung up on that

One for under the tree, and another one for me

'Tis the season to save on style. Self-shopping becoming less of a secret shame as fashionistas embrace this optimal time to buy their beauty booty

Getting up early on Black Friday for a little shopping? Doing your part on Small Business Saturday and Cyber Monday, too? It's all in the name of gift-giving — or at least the guise of it.

It seems a lot of consumers are using these sales and retail events to treat themselves to a little something new.

As a group, self-shoppers are growing, says Marshal Cohen, chief analyst of The NPD Group, Inc., a consumer insight company. He puts the number at 20 per cent, up from five per cent in the early 2000s.

"I started tracking people shopping for themselves about 10 years ago. I was at a Black Friday in a Macy's in a suburban location in Long Island," he recalls. "This woman has one arm filled with a few things, maybe a dress and a few sweaters, and another with 12 items."

Guess which hand had the future presents for her two sisters and a friend?

It's a similar scene in Loft stores already this year, says Lori Leslie-Robbins, director of client experience for the retailer. "For us, the telltale sign that someone is shopping for themselves is that our fitting rooms stay busy for the holidays. She's trying clothes on, and you don't need to do that for a gift."

Leslie-Robbins overheard this past weekend a conversation between a sales associate and customer in the dressing room that went something like this: The shopper was in the dressing room choosing between a dress and a tuxedo-jacket-and-denim-jeans combo, and was taking seriously this choice of what to wear to a co-worker's at-home holiday party. When the associate asked if she'd also considered a hostess gift, the response was, "I'm not there yet."

Because of the deep discounts, shoppers see this as an opportunity to replenish their own wardrobes and homes with less guilt than buying the new pair of jeans, for example, at full price, Cohen says. Those same shoppers might not feel that way about a gift for someone else.

He says especially the early-bird holiday shoppers are looking for the sales for themselves, while the transactions made closer to Christmas are more likely to be bona fide gifts. He can also tell by what you're buying: If it's electronics or footwear, it's probably for you; fragrance is a go-to gift item, with 20 per cent of annual sales happening in the five days before Christmas, according to NPD.

Rachel DiCarlo is a fan of the one-for-me, one-for-you theory.

Jewellery and scarves, perfectly good gifts for others, are also the items she tends to buy for herself. Last year, she couldn't resist the initial necklaces she was buying for so many others. "I was getting the Ls, the Js, and I thought, 'I should buy an R.'"

She is the vice-president of public relations at American Eagle Outfitters and, in her office, everyone tends to dress similarly. So, she says with a laugh, it makes sense to get for herself the shirt or accessory she is getting for the members in her team — although, everyone gets a different colour.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

We're certain Santa would encourage doing something nice for yourself this yuletide. ISTOCK

You deserve a good deal

Many of the self-purchases Loft's Leslie-Robbins sees in stores are those that solve problems or have a focused end use — this tends to alleviate that pang of guilt, she says.

- A woman needs to buy herself the items no one else will buy her, right? muses Robin White, global press director of beauty brand Philosophy. There's also "the stuff you need" and "the stuff you enjoy buying."
- She takes pleasure, for example, in a new tube of eye cream — it really makes her day, she says, but it's not quite what she'd want to unwrap Christmas morning. That makes it the perfect self-purchase.

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Vancouver

Name: Nikki

Age: 24

Occupation: Sales associate

What she's wearing
Jacket from Aritzia, vintage leather vest from Nouvelle Nouvelle, T-shirt from Cheap Monday, jeans and bag from American Apparel, shoes from Converse and sunglasses from Stella McCartney.

Her inspiration
"This is my Saturday outfit ... running errands."

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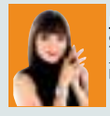
Twitter



JEANNE SPACE
Jeanne Beker
life@metronews.ca

TWITTER HAS BECOME A COOL AND SUCCINCT WAY OF COMMUNICATING. IT ALLOWS ME TO BE ACCESSIBLE, INSTANTLY SPEAK MY MIND AND CONNECTS ME WITH ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE. WHETHER IT'S A FASHION QUESTION OR YOU JUST WANT TO COMMENT ON LIFE'S BIGGER PICTURE, I'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

Xmas shopping in Kensington Mkt + went nuts at Model Citizen, Augusta St. Discovered jewellery designer Kimberly Dale!

Bundled up to brave the cold. I feel like a walking ad for @TheHudsonsBayCo ! #proudlycanadian

Soothe your winter skin with this make-it-yourself mask

Green with envy over the dewy profile of your pals? Add some moisture with a mask. ISTOCK

A little flakey in the facial region? Improve your complexion from the comfort of your own kitchen

TINA CHADHA
Metro World News

Step away from the work email. The holidays are you time, meaning all you should be doing is stuffing your face, sprawling out to a Scandal binge-fest and perhaps pampering yourself with an at-home beauty treatment. We like this simple recipe to combat dry winter skin from renowned facialist Joanna Vargas (her customers include Michelle Williams and Sofia Coppola). The best part: You most likely have these ingredients in your kitchen — meaning you can achieve glowing in your pajamas, without leaving Olivia Pope's side. Because that is what holidays are about.

"Yogurt and honey are awesome ingredients for a reparative mask because the yogurt reduces inflammation in the skin while honey hydrates," says Vargas of the mixture. "It's an easy solution to soothe and improve skin throughout the cold weather season."

Hydrating mask recipe

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup yogurt
- 1/2 avocado
- 1/4 honey

Directions: Combine all ingredients together in a small bowl. Apply with a sea sponge.

Love the way you style. Rihanna makes salon-ready locks look good

Leave it to Rihanna — who always manages to push boundaries and look cool (have you seen the video for Pour it Up?) — to cause the interwebs to blow up over a hairdo.

At the 2013 American Music Awards on Sunday, the pop star (who took home the Best Soul/ R & B Female Artist award along with the ceremony's first-ever Icon Award) sported a doobie wrap with her sexy two-piece Jean Paul Gaultier ensemble.

The style, which looks like a perfectly chic updo, caused a commotion since it's how many African-American women throw their hair up on the way to the salon when they're going in for an actual hair do. It's the equivalent of accepting an award with your hair still in rollers or a shower cap. But somehow Ri Ri magically made the style look like something a princess would wear to a gala. Those gorgeous pearl pins helped. It reminded us of when J.Lo first flaunted her baby hairs. We're just interested to see if this common urban style will make its way to the masses. METRO

Rihanna. GETTY IMAGES

The great girlfriend gifting dilemma

A recent Match.com survey found most Canadians believe you should only give someone a holiday gift after dating for one to two months and you should spend between $25 and $50.

The survey also found younger Canadians are more likely to rush into gift-giving than older Canadians — singles between 18 to 34 years old wait only one to two months before picking out presents while singles over 65 wait at least six!

Match.com Canadian relationship insider Kimberly Moffit offers these tips:

METRO/ALL PHOTOS ISTOCK

Stage one: dating for less than one month? Spend between $25 and $50.

Aromatherapy candles

Stage two: dating for one to six months? Spend between $50 and $75

A small bottle of her favourite perfume

Stage three: dating for six months to over a year? Spend $75 to $100 — at least!

A day at the spa

Usher in the holiday baking season with rich Lemon Walnut Bars

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 cup large-flake rolled oats
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup dark brown sugar
- 1/2 cup unsweetened shredded coconut
- 1/2 cup ground walnuts
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 300 ml can condensed milk (about 1 1/4 cups)
- 1/2 cup lemon juice, freshly squeezed (about 2 lemons)

You Will Need

- (9- x 9-inch) pan buttered and lined with parchment paper

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F.

2. In a small saucepan over low heat, melt the butter (or melt in the microwave for about 30 seconds on high).

3. In a large bowl, combine the oats, flour, sugar, coconut, ground walnuts and baking powder. Pour in the melted butter and mix with a spatula or large spoon until the butter is evenly distributed. Press half the oat mixture into the prepared pan firmly and evenly.

4. In a medium mixing bowl, whisk together the condensed milk and lemon juice until fully combined and slightly thickened. Pour the lemon mixture over the base. Use the back of a spoon or a small offset spatula to spread the filling evenly across the base. Sprinkle the remaining half of the oat mixture over the filling.

5. Bake in the preheated oven for 22 to 25 minutes or until the top is a golden brown.

6. Remove from the oven and allow to cool completely in the pan.

7. Run a small knife along the two edges of the pan that do not have parchment handles. Carefully remove the slabs from the pan and cut into approximately 2- x 2-inch bars. Make sure to use at least a 10-inch knife to avoid cutting and dragging the knife across the bars.

This recipe makes 16 bars. ALL PHOTOS JANIS NICOLAY

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Cookbook of the Week

Get to sifting

Before it was a book filled with 100 recipes, Butter Baked Goods was (and still is) a tiny bakery in Vancouver. Opened by the author of the book, Rosie Daykin, it is known as the home of the very best gourmet marshmallow in North America.

In Butter Baked Goods, Daykin shares homemade treats and childhood favourites through instructions that are easy to follow.

Among the delicacies in the book are: Butter's Chocolate Cake, Red Velvet Cupcakes, Peanut Butter Balls and more. METRO

Classic tropical combination: Pineapple Coconut Scones

"Every day at Butter we make a different scone," writes Rosie Daykin of her Vancouver bakery in her book Butter Baked Goods. "There is no set schedule, so regular customers call us in the morning to check what we have on tap that day.

"This flavour never seems to disappoint, and when we tell them it's on the menu, they hightail it over to get one."

1. Preheat the oven to 400 F.

2. In a stand mixer fitted with a paddle attachment, quickly mix the flour, sugar, baking powder and salt on low speed to blend. Add the butter cubes and mix until large crumbs form. Add the coconut and mix again to distribute. Add the buttermilk, crushed pineapple and juice and mix until almost combined.

3. Turn the dough out onto a lightly floured work surface and roll out to about 1-inch thick. Use the circular cutter to cut out 10 circles and place them on the prepared cookie sheet about 1 1/2 inches apart.

This recipe makes 10 scones.

4. In a bowl, whisk together the egg and water to make an egg wash. Use a pastry brush to gently coat the top of each scone with the wash. Sprinkle with a little sanding sugar.

5. Bake in the preheated oven for 20 to 25 minutes or until golden brown. A wooden skewer inserted into the center should come out clean.

6. Remove from the oven and allow the scones to cool on the cookie sheets. Then split them open and spread with lots of butter and jam!

Ingredients

- 5 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/3 cups sugar
- 3 tbsp baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups butter, chilled and cut into 1-inch cubes
- 2 cups unsweetened shredded coconut
- 3/4 cup buttermilk
- 1 14-oz can crushed pineapple with juice

Finishing

- 1 large egg
- 2 tbsp cold water
- Coarse sanding sugar, for sprinkling

You Will Need

- Cookie sheet, 3 1/2-inch circular cutter

Dessert. Vanilla Shortbread

1. Preheat the oven to 325 F.

2. In a stand mixer fitted with a paddle attachment, cream the butter and icing sugar on medium to high speed until light and fluffy. Scrape down the sides of the bowl.

3. Turn the mixer to low and add the flour and mix until just combined. Scrape down the sides of the bowl. Add the vanilla and mix to combine.

4. Place dough on a lightly floured work surface. Use a rolling pin to roll out the dough to about 1/4 inch thick. Use the circular cutter to cut out 24 circles. Transfer to the prepared cookie sheets and place about 1/2 inch apart.

5. Bake in the preheated oven for 15 minutes or until the cookies are lightly golden brown around the edges.

6. Remove from oven and sprinkle the cookies generously with granulated sugar while still warm. Transfer to wire racks to cool.

Ingredients

- 1 cup butter, room temperature
- 1 cup icing sugar
- 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 tbsp pure vanilla

Finishing

- 1/2 cup granulated sugar, for dusting

You Will Need

- 2 cookie sheets lined with parchment paper, 2 1/2-inch circular cutter with scalloped edge

Expert offers no-bull tactics to scoring best Black Friday deals

Run, bargain hunter, run. If you are brave enough to participate in a crush of crazy shoppers this Friday, you need some tips

MAJA LUNDAGER
Metro World News in New York

Braving Black Friday crowds this year? You need survival skills! ISTOCK

If you look up Black Friday on YouTube, you're bound to find a lot of videos with terrible titles like Black Friday Fights, Black Friday Disasters or Black Friday 2012 Madness. But the horrifying stigma of this day doesn't seem to scare the thousands of brave shoppers who voluntarily run with the big box store crowd, fighting for killer deals on last year's food processor.

As with all other extreme sports, you need to prepare for Black Friday shopping. We went to the best: Mark Hellmann Regouby.

Is Regouby an experienced Black Friday shopper? Not really. But he'll do you one better. He's the founder of the travel company Running of the Bulls, Inc., which puts tourists up close and personal with the animals at the annual event in Pamplona, Spain. Here's his advice for braving big crowds.

Before you go in

"We tell them … watch the Bull Run first so they can see how it works and understand the flow of the people and the bulls and make their strategy from overviewed conditions," he says. This is where the aforementioned YouTube search for Black Friday videos will come in handy. But the preparation doesn't stop here. If you were planning to hit the bottle to take the edge off of Black Friday shopping, you'd better think twice. "The No. 1 rule is to arrive sober," Regouby says. "No. 2 is to get a good night's sleep. No. 3 is to have 360-degree awareness. Always try to be aware of who is in front, behind and beside you. Really get a sense of being in the place."

Surviving in the heat of battle

"The best runners always say you stake out your territory," says Regouby. "You use your arms and don't let anybody get too much in your way. Swing your arms and keep in your elbows to make sure you've got your own space that you need in order to run without tripping."

This sounds extreme, but seriously, do you want that food processor or not?

If you go down

There have only been 15 deaths since the beginning of the Bull Run in Pamplona in 1910, but broken wrists and bloodied chins are the norm. According to Regouby, there are more falls and injuries because of humans tripping over each other than because of the bulls. We can, with some certainty, say the same about Black Friday, except that the National Retail Federation in the U.S. — the homeland of Black Friday — has only reported one trampling death: In 2008 a Walmart employee was crushed in a stampede. So what do you do if you go down?

"The most important rule of all is if you go down, stay down. The bulls are actually talented at stepping over obstacles and as long as you cover your head and stay down and don't move, they can plan to step over you."

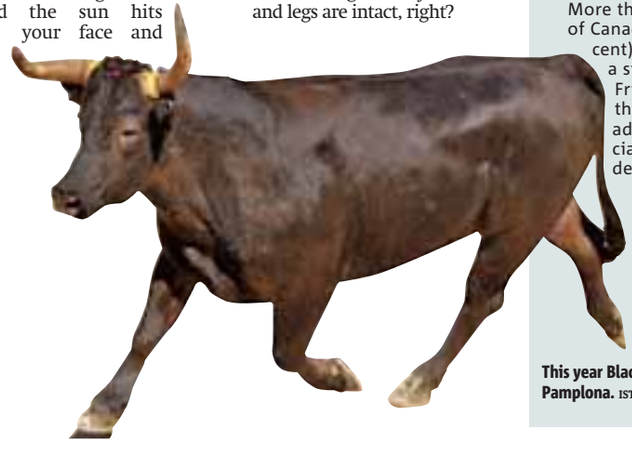
We can only hope the same counts for the herds at Best Buy and Target. Actually, we're going to say that the people waiting in the cold to buy stuff at discount prices are NOT talented at stepping over obstacles, so we advise just trying to roll to safety!

When you succeed

Regouby says that a run like the one in Pamplona is for people who want to be in touch with their own mortality and live their lives to the fullest.

"I have [run with the bulls] four times and it's still pretty incredible," he says. "You arrive in this huge arena and the sun hits your face and the air is fresh again, and you can't believe you are alive."

That sounds a bit like waking up way too early on Black Friday and shortly afterward hauling bags of discounted goods to the parking lot, realizing all of your arms and legs are intact, right?



This year Black Friday. Next? Pamplona. ISTOCK

Canadian context

While Black Friday is a relatively new shopping event in Canada, the day's quick rise in popularity among Canadians is having an impact on Canuck retailers' holiday sales strategy. Consulting firm Accenture recently released the results of a survey into the habits of Canadians when it comes to Black Friday. Here are some findings:

- **Hungry for the best deals.** Almost two thirds of Canadians surveyed plan to shop at U.S. retailers, online or in-store, on Black Friday and throughout the holiday season.
- **Boxing Day.** Is still believed by many (44 per cent) to offer the best deals of the season in Canada, Canadians feel retailers in Canada are not doing enough to compete with U.S. stores on Black Friday.
- **Go south.** When Canadians surveyed were asked when they believed they would see the best deals of the holiday season (either in Canada or the U.S.), Black Friday in the U.S. was cited by almost half (42 per cent), while less than a quarter (23 per cent) said the best deals were to be had on Black Friday in Canada.
- **Bust down the door.** More than a quarter of Canadians (27 per cent) would shop in a store on Black Friday because they want to take advantage of special door buster deals.

Offers in effect Thursday November 28th, 2013 to Wednesday, December 4th, 2013 unless otherwise stated, while quantities last

BLACK FRIDAY EDITION

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After shopping, it's a wrap!

Not all gifts come in the shape of a box that's easy to wrap. Let's face it, even boxes are hard. Ever wonder how Aunt Doris gets her corners so crisp? Not sure how to wrap an awkward-shaped present? Elana White, owner of Toronto gift shop Outer Layer, shares four novel ways to wrap yours up this holiday season.

MAE BOWRING
Metro News Canada

Odd-shaped gift

Booze, lotions and bubble bath are all popular gifts, but they're also round. Instead of trying to wrap it into a hot mess, try this creative solution.

What you need:
- Two pieces of coloured tissue
- Clear plastic bag
- Three pieces of coloured ribbon

How to do it:
Place two pieces of the same coloured tissue on top of two others, creating a T-shape. Lay the gift down in the middle of the tissue. Fold the bottom of the tissue upwards and then the sides over, creating a cone around the gift. Place the cone in a plastic bag and tie the ribbon just above the top of the gift. Curl the ribbon with scissors and adjust the excess paper "poof" on top. Ribbon curling tip: Look to see how the ribbon curls naturally, and drag the scissor blade down the same side to get a tight curl effect.

Traditional box

Board games, shoeboxes — you're laughing because you think this wrapping job will be a cinch. But it's not. Where people go wrong, White says, is having too much wrapping paper.

What you need:
- Holiday wrapping paper
- Scissors
- Clear tape

How to do it:
After taping the paper together length-wise, tackle the sides. The wrapping paper should only come halfway up the gift width-wise, White explains. Ready for the secret trick? Fold the top of the paper all the way down, enforcing a crease on either side. That should make it easier to tuck in the sides, followed by the bottom. From there you need one small piece of tape to hold it together. Repeat on the other side.

Basket

If your gift has a theme that's too pretty to hide, a basket is another option.

What you need:
- A basket
- Newspaper
- Colourful shredded paper
- Roll of clear cellophane
- Ribbon

How to do it:
Fill the bottom of the basket with newspaper and place the shredded paper on top. This will prevent the items from falling into the basket and out of sight. Place each item on top of the shredded paper at an angle, starting from the back to the front. Cover the basket in cellophane and tie it together with ribbon toward the back of the basket. Cut excess cellophane away and gently curl ribbon.

With these simple tricks, you'll be smiling instead of swearing at wrapping time. ISTOCK

Bag it

Have a bunch of small items that will fit into a gift bag? Bags are great but people tend to go overboard with tissue paper trying to make it look pretty, says White.

What you need:
- One festive bag
- Four pieces of coloured tissue, two different colours
- Coloured ribbon

How to do it:
Put gift inside the bag. Make a T-shape with the two colours of tissue and put the brighter coloured tissue on top. Pinch the middle of the tissue and give it a shake upside down. It will create a nice V-shaped "poof" that will fill up one side of the bag. Repeat and place the second "poof" on the other side of the bag. The trick, White says, is doing more with less. "We always train new people on how to do the poof." Tie bag handles shut with ribbon and gently curl it so that the ribbon cascades down the side of the bag.

URBAN PLANET

SALE STARTS TOMORROW!

BLACK FRIDAY

SALE

HUGE SELECTION

Plus!

TAKE AN ADDITIONAL 20% OFF YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE 7AM-9AM ONLY!

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Take an additional 20% off your entire purchase, between 7AM-9AM Friday, November 29th ONLY. Not valid toward the purchase of Gift Cards.
Spend $50 before taxes and get a free $25 gift card. Offer available to the first 100 shoppers in line before doors open on Friday, November 29th ONLY before 9AM.
Card must be redeemed between December 3 - 10, 2013.

Tartan it up for the holidays

Plaid is one of the most popular patterns during the festive season — the clean lines look great in both modern and traditional interiors, and they're a perfect way to add variety to a room with solid colours (so long as you remember to never mix plaids together). From tabletop items to wallpapers, there's a wide array of accessories that bring a touch of the old clan to your home.

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Add some old-school style to your work commute. Plaid Lunch Box and Thermal Carafe, $40 each, crateandbarrel.com.

Subtle grey plaid adds modern sophistication to walls. Audrey Charcoal Wallpaper, $85 per roll, grahambrown.ca.

Stay warm during those cold nights. Nordic Plaid Duvet Cover Set, $75, simons.ca.

Punchy colours modernize the season's favorite pattern. Lord & Taylor Buffalo Plaid Duvet Cover, $69-89, thebay.com.

Scotch and soda never went down so easy. PC Tartan Glasses, four for $9, Real Canadian Superstore.

Drive in style while keeping your hands toasty. Plaid Steering Wheel Cover, $15, canadiantire.ca.

Add bright colours underfoot. Modern Plaid 5x8 foot Wool Rug, $450, cb2.com

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Above prices include house, lot, GST, connection fees & piles. Images are artist renditions and are subject to change.

Olympic hockey

Roster deadline moved to Jan. 7

The roster deadline for the 2014 Sochi Olympics has been pushed back to Jan. 7, the International Ice Hockey Federation announced.

Originally, national federations had until Dec. 31 to submit 25-man rosters for the tournament, which begins Feb. 12. Russia and other European countries were lobbying for a later date and got their wish.

That's a little extra time to take injuries into account, like Canada with Steven Stamkos's broken tibia. THE CANADIAN PRESS

CFL

Lions cut ties with offensive co-ordinator

The B.C. Lions announced Wednesday that the club and offensive co-ordinator Jacques Chapdelaine have mutually agreed to part ways.

Chapdelaine's offence struggled for long stretches during the second half of the 2013 season after starting quarterback Travis Lulay went down with a shoulder injury.

The Lions, who lost in the CFL West Division final to the Saskatchewan Roughriders, were criticized for a lack of imagination under Chapdelaine's leadership, with the running game practically non-existent for long stretches.

The 52-year-old won two Grey Cups as the offensive co-ordinator with the Lions.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ravens defensive tackle Brandon Williams sacks quarterback Ben Roethlisberger during the Steelers' 19-16 win on Oct. 20 in Pittsburgh. The rivals meet again in prime time on Thursday night in a game with playoff implications. JUSTIN K. ALLER/GETTY IMAGES

No rest for the rivalry

NFL. Big game in Baltimore on U.S. holiday caps short work week for Steelers and Ravens

The last time the Baltimore Ravens played on U.S. Thanksgiving, coach John Harbaugh gathered the family together for a game against brother Jim and the San Francisco 49ers.

Two years later, Harbaugh and the Ravens will spend the holiday with their most bitter rival.

It doesn't matter that Baltimore (5-6) and the Pittsburgh Steelers (5-6) both have losing records. Both teams have plenty of motivation, because Thursday night's game has playoff ramifications. Plus, these AFC North foes almost always engage in a hard-hitting, trash-talking, closely played affair.

"It's always a cool week when you go against these guys," Ravens quarterback Joe Flacco said. "It's been a good game for the last handful of years, and it's always a challenge getting ready on a short week. But they have the same issues. It should be a lot of fun."

Since Harbaugh took over the Ravens in 2008, Baltimore has faced Pittsburgh 13 times, including twice in the playoffs. Nine of those games were decided by three points, including the Steelers' 19-16 win last month.

"It's just an intense rivalry," Pittsburgh wide receiver Antonio Brown said. "Great defence is played. I think everyone understands the urgency of the game. It's just iron on iron. It's always a tough battle, and it always comes to the fourth quarter and to the end of the game." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blazing hot in black and yellow

"I just think we're all continually evolving, and thankfully we're evolving in the right direction."

Pittsburgh head coach Mike Tomlin, whose Steelers have bounced back with a 5-2 run that includes three consecutive wins after opening the season with four straight losses.

Fast facts

- The Ravens are 4-1 at home this season compared to 1-5 on the road.
- Ravens linebacker Terrell Suggs has more sacks (16 1/2) against Pittsburgh's Ben Roethlisberger than any other quarterback.
- Steelers rookie running back Le'Veon Bell burned the Ravens for a career-high 93 yards the last time the teams played.

New Eskimos head coach Chris Jones addresses a news conference in Edmonton on Wednesday. IAN JACKSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jones-in' as Esks' new coach

Chris Jones is from the small town of South Pittsburgh, Tenn., where, he says, there's a lot of blue-collar people who "work extremely hard for their money."

And that hard work, he said, is what he will bring to the Edmonton Eskimos as the 20th head coach in their history. He also brings a wealth of CFL experience. He's been a defensive coach since 2002, including stints as an assistant head coach for two years in Calgary and most recently as assistant head coach, assistant general manager and defensive coordinator for the Toronto Argonauts. Jones has been in the post-season each of his 12 years in the league, won seven division titles and three Grey Cups.

The length of terms of his contract were not revealed.

"Today is about 2014 and beyond," Eskimo general manager Ed Hervey said in introducing Jones to the media and fans on Wednesday. "I know I have selected the right person to coach this team. We know there is work to do but we are committed to making this thing right and I believe our team is in the right hands of Chris Jones." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"My teams have won a lot of games, Grey Cup championships.... and it's going to continue in Edmonton."

Chris Jones, the Eskimos' new head coach

4 SPORTS

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You will be able to charm the birds out of the trees today but why waste your talents on wildlife when you can focus instead on getting your way on the work front? Employers won't be able to say "no".

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Not everyone will agree with what you do over the next 24 hours but do you care? No, you don't! No one has the power to make life difficult for you. So, if it feels good, do it.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Let someone you trust know that your happy -go-lucky act is just that. Once your share your problem, it won't be as bad when various options have been pointed out to you.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
With love planet Venus moving through the relationship area of your chart, you can't afford to be shy with affairs of the heart. If there is someone you fancy, let them know. Chances are they feel the same way about you.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
It's good to dream and some dreams will never come true and it's time you faced up to that fact. Never mind, there should be another great dream coming along soon.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You will be rather impatient today and that may be no bad thing, especially if people you work with are dragging their feet just to annoy you. Maybe you should threaten to carry on without them.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You have the happy knack of knowing what loved ones want and will go out of your way to get it for them over the next 24 hours. Don't forget your own needs though.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Mercury in your sign links with both Venus and Jupiter today, so good news is coming your way. Whatever it happens to be, don't keep it to yourself.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Make sure you know all the facts before reaching a decision about a money or business issue. Remember too that just because someone makes big noise does not mean they know what they are talking about.

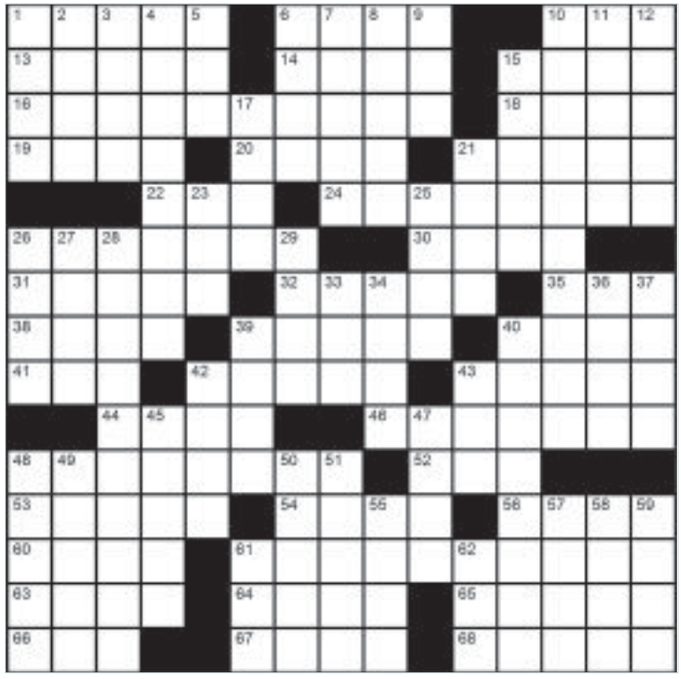
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Keep things light and don't let the cares of the world get to you. Venus in your sign makes it easy to see past negativity and make sense of what to others appears senseless. Life has meaning, and it is joy.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You can persuade almost anyone to do almost anything for you today but you don't seem happy with that "almost". You may be good with words but don't push too hard. Someone will always be immune to your charms.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
This is an excellent time to travel, ideally with friends. The things you discuss and the things you see will make you glad to be alive in this time and place. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

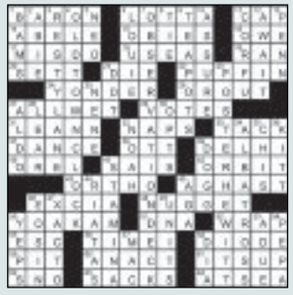
See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Glisten
6. Federal force, commonly
10. Juice: French
13. Camera company
14. Margarine
15. Faxed
16. Canadian fashion designer: 2 wds.
18. Cracker spread
19. Tugboat's sound
20. Poetic nights
21. Mr. Schwarzenegger, to fans
22. Spotlight lover
24. Toronto's __ Expressway
26. Saintly
30. Border
31. __ Carta
32. Some beans
35. Li'l physician
38. Balmy
39. Casual material
40. The Dalai __
41. "...__ _ quit!" (Worker's ultimatum)
42. House fields
43. Job-giver
44. Abound
46. Canada __ for the Arts (Administrator of the annual honours at #28-Down)
48. Rihanna hit
52. Carrot, e.g.
53. "Hang Ten" Canadian singer
54. Govern
56. Sicilian volcano
60. Actress, Sharon __
61. As per #28-Down... Fiction book winner: The __ by Eleanor Catton, set in New Zealand
63. Deviate
64. Tunestress Tori
65. Capital of Belarus
66. Antiquity
67. Secret-passer's sound effect
68. Writer W.B. with Reshmi __"
28. _ _ __. __ (Prestigious honour for Canadian writers, trendy-style ...see 2013 winners at #4-Down and #61-Across)
29. Ball of yarn
33. Caravansary
34. Filing abbr.
36. Sacred Buddhist peak
37. Director Mr. Reiner
39. "Curses!"
40. Victoria's Secret apparel
42. Rock's Kings of __
43. Shade
45. Actress Ms. Procter
47. Baking need
48. Search into
49. Model
50. Ringo's instruments
51. Wrestlers of Japan
55. Itemize
57. Frank Sinatra daughter
58. Cozy retreat
59. Requests
61. Swimming segment
62. Ms. Poehler

Down
1. Jazz singing style
2. Religious 'ring'
3. Data
4. As per #28-Down... Poetry book winner: Katherena Vermette for __ __ Love Songs, set in the Winnipeg neighbourhood of the title
5. Compass dir.
6. Red __ Tea
7. Held on tightly
8. High IQ society
9. Disc in a 1990s fad game
10. The Maid of Orleans, b.1412 - d.1431: 2 mots
11. Take apart laces
12. Drive
15. Parsley portion
17. Ashton's ex
21. Tots up
23. Menu words
25. Printing quantity
26. G.I.'s weapon need
27. "CBC News Now

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku

4	1	9	3	8	5	7	2	6
3	6	5	7	2	1	4	9	8
8	7	2	9	6	4	3	1	5
7	2	6	4	5	8	1	3	9
5	3	8	2	1	9	6	7	4
9	4	1	6	3	7	5	8	2
6	8	4	1	9	3	2	5	7
1	5	7	8	4	2	9	6	3
2	9	3	5	7	6	8	4	1

Today -9°/-11° Variable
Friday -3°/-11° Partly cloudy
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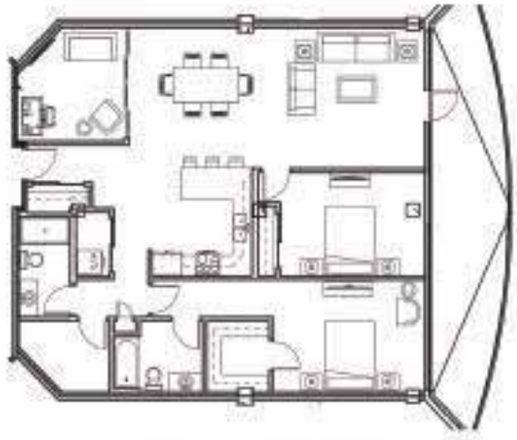

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